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The LATE

TRYAL

AND

CONVICTION

OF

Count *TARIFF.*

LONDON:

Printed for *A. Baldwin*, near the *Oxford-Arms* in *Warwick-Lane.* MDCC XIII.

Price Three-pence.

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ſhall therefore give my Countrymen a ſhort and faithful Account of that whole Matter. And in order to it, muſt in the firſt Place premiſe ſome Particulars relating to the Perſon and Character of the ſaid Plaintiff Goodman *Fact*.

Goodman *Fact* is allowed by every Body to be a plain-ſpoken Perſon, and a Man of very few Words. Tropes and Figures are his Averſion. He affirms every Thing roundly, without any Art, Rhetorick, or Circumlocution. He is a declared Enemy to all Kinds of Ceremony and Complaiſance. He flatters no Body. Yet ſo great is his natural Eloquence, that he cuts down the fineſt Orator, and deſtroys the beſt-contrived Argument, as ſoon as ever he gets himſelf to be heard. He never applies to the Paſſions or Prejudices of his Audience: When they liſten with Attention

tention and honeſt Minds, he never fails of carrying his Point. He appear'd in a Suit of *Engliſh* Broad-Cloath, very Plain, but Rich. Every thing he wore was ſubſtantial, honeſt, home-ſpun Ware. His Cane indeed came from the *Eaſt-Indies*, and two or three little Superfluities from *Turkey*, and other Parts. It is ſaid that he encouraged himſelf with a Bottle of Neat *Port*, before he appear'd at the Tryal. He was Huzza'd into the Court by ſeveral Thouſands of *Weavers*, *Clothiers*, *Fullers*, *Dyers*, *Packers*, *Calenders*, *Setters*, *Silk-men*, *Spinners*, *Dreſſers*, *Whitſters*, *Winders*, *Mercers*, *Throwſters*, *Sugar-Bakers*, *Diſtillers*, *Drapers*, *Hoſiers*, *Planters*, *Merchants*, and *Fiſhermen*; who all unanimouſly declared that they cou'd not live above Two Months longer, if their Friend *Paſt* did not gain his Cauſe.

Every

Every Body was over-joy'd to hear that the Good Man was come to Town. He no sooner made his Appearance in Court, but several of his Friends fell a weeping at the Sight of him; For indeed he had not been seen there some Years before.

The Charge he exhibited against Count *Tariff* was drawn up in the following Articles.

1. That the said Count had given in false and fraudulent Reports in the Name of the Plaintiff.

2. That the said Count had tamper'd with the said Plaintiff, and made Use of many indirect Methods to bring him over to his Party.

3. That

3. That the ſaid Count had wilfully and knowingly traduced the ſaid Plaintiff, having miſrepreſented him in many cunningly-deviſed Speeches, as a Perſon in the *French* Intereſt.

4. That the ſaid Count had averred in the Preſence of above Five hundred Perſons, that he had heard the Plaintiff ſpeak in Derogation of the *Portugueſe*, *Spaniards*, *Italians*, *Hollanders*, and others; who were the Perſons whom the ſaid Plaintiff had always favoured in his Diſcourſe, and whom he ſhould always continue to Favour.

5. That the ſaid Count had given a very diſadvantageous Relation of Three Great Farms, which had long flouriſhed under the Care and Superintendency of the Plaintiff.

6. That he would have obliged the Owners of the ſaid Farms to buy up many Commodities which grew upon their own Lands. That he would have taken away the Labour from the Tenants, and put it into the Hands of Strangers. That he wou'd have leſſen'd and deſtroy'd the Produce of the ſaid Farms.

That by theſe and many other wicked Devices he wou'd have ſtarved many honeſt Day-Labourers; have impoveriſh'd the Owner, and have fill'd his Farms with Beggars, &c.

7. That the ſaid Count had either Sunk or Miſlaid ſeveral Books, Papers, and Receipts, by which the Plaintiff might ſooner have found Means to vindicate himſelf from

ſuch

ſuch Calumnies, Aſperſions, and Miſ-repreſentations.

In all theſe Particulars Goodman *Fact* was very Short but Pithy : For as I ſaid before, he was a plain home-ſpun Man. His Yea was Yea, and his Nay, Nay. He had further ſo much of the Quaker in him, that he never ſwore, but his Affirmation was as Valid as another's Oath.

It was obſerved that Count *Tariff* endeavour'd to brow-beat the Plaintiff all the while he was ſpeaking : But though he was not ſo Impudent as the Count, he was every whit as Sturdy ; and when it came to the Count's Turn to ſpeak, Old *Fact* ſo ſtared him in the Face, after his plain, down-right Way, that the Count was very often ſtruck Dumb,

and forced to hold his Tongue, in the middle of his Diſcourſe.

More Witneſſes appeared on this Occaſion to atteſt Goodman *Fact*'s Veracity than ever were ſeen in a Court of Juſtice. His Cauſe was pleaded by the Ableſt Men in the Kingdom; among whom was a Gentleman of *Suffolk* who did him Signal Service.

Count *Tariff* appeared juſt the Reverſe of Goodman *Fact*. He was dreſs'd in a Fine Brocade Waſtcoat, curiouſly Embroider'd with Flower-de-Luces. He wore alſo a broad-brimm'd Hat, a Shoulder-Knot, and a Pair of Silver-clock'd Stockins. His Speeches were accompanied with much Geſture and Grimace. He abounded in empty Phraſes, ſuperficial Flouriſhes,

riſhes, violent Aſſertions, and feeble Proofs. To be brief, he had all the *French* Aſſurance, Cunning, and Volubility of Tongue; and wou'd moſt certainly have carried his Cauſe, had he dealt with any one Antagoniſt in the World beſides Goodman *Fact*.

The Count being call'd upon to Anſwer to the Charge which had been made againſt him, did it after a Manner peculiar to the Family of the *Tariffs*, viz. by Railing and calling Names.

He in the Firſt Place accuſed his Adverſary of *Scandalum magnatum*, and of ſpeaking againſt his Superiors with Saucineſs and Contempt. As the Plain Good Man was not of a Make to have any Friends at Court, he was a little ſtartled at this Accuſation, till at length he made it appear,

pear, that it was impoſſible for any of his Family to be either Saucy or Cringing; for that their Character was above all others in the World, to do what was required of them by the Court, that is, To SPEAK THE TRUTH AND NOTHINGBUTTHE TRUTH.

The Count in the next Place aſſured the Court, that his Antagoniſt has taken upon him a wrong Name, having curtail'd it of Two or Three Letters; for that in Reality his Name was not FACT but FACTION. The Count was ſo pleaſed with this Conceit, that for an Hour together he repeated it in every Sentence; calling his Antagoniſt's Aſſertions, the Reports of Faction; his Friends, the Sons of Faction; the Teſtimonies of his Witneſſes, the Dictates of Faction: Nay, with ſuch a Degree of Impudence did he puſh this Matter, that when

when he heard the Cries of above a Million of People begging for their Bread, He termed the Prayers and Importunities of ſuch a ſtarving Multitude the CLAMOURS OF FACTION.

As ſoon as the Count was driven out of this Device, he affirmed roundly in the Court that FACT was not an *Engliſhman* by Birth, but that he was of *Dutch* Extraction, and born in *Holland*. In conſequence of this Aſſertion he began to rally the poor Plaintiff, under the Title of MYNHEER VAN FACT; which took pretty well with the Simpletons of his Party, but the Men of Senſe did not think the Jeſt worth all their Lands and Tenements.

When the Count had finiſhed his Speech, he deſired leave to call in his Witneſſes, which was granted: When imme-

immediately there came to the Bar a Man with a Hat drawn over his Eyes in ſuch a manner that it was impoſſible to ſee his Face. He ſpoke in the Spirit, nay in the very Language of the Count, repeated his Arguments, and confirmed his Aſſertions. Being ask'd his Name? He ſaid the World called him MERCATOR: But as for his true Name, his Age, his Lineage, his Religion, his Place of Abode, they were Particulars, which for certain Reaſons he was obliged to conceal. The Court found him ſuch a Falſe, Shuffling, Prevaricating Raſcal, that they ſet him aſide as a Perſon unqualify'd to give his Teſtimony in a Court of Juſtice; adviſing him at the ſame time, as he tender'd his Ears, to forbear uttering ſuch notorious Falſhoods as he had then Publiſhed. The Witneſs however perſiſted in his Contumacy, telling them he was very ſorry to find,

find, that notwithſtanding what he had ſaid, they were reſolved to be as arrant Fools as all their Foreſathers had been for a Hundred Years before them.

There came up another Witneſs, who ſpoke much to the Reputation of Count *Tariff*. This was a Tall, Black, Bluſtering Perſon, dreſſed in a *Spaniſh* Habit, with a Plume of Feathers on his Head, a *Golillio* about his Neck, and a long *Toledo* ſticking out by his Side: His Garments were ſo cover'd with Tinſel and Spangles, that at a diſtance he ſeem'd to be made up of Silver and Gold. He call'd himſelf DON ASSIENTO, and mentioned ſeveral Nations that had ſought his Friendſhip; but declared that he had been gained over by the Count; and that he was come into theſe Parts

to enrich every one that heard him. The Court was at first very well pleased with his Figure, and the Promises he made them; but upon Examination found him a True *Spaniard*: Nothing but Show and Beggary. For it was fully proved, that notwithstanding the Boasts and Appearance which he made, he was not worth a Groat: Nay, that upon casting up his Annual Expences, with the Debts and Incumbrances which lay upon his Estate, he was worse than Nothing.

There appear'd another Witness in favour of the Count, who spoke with so much Violence and Warmth, that the Court begun to listen to him very attentively; till upon hearing his Name they found he was a notorious Knight of the Post, being kept in Pay, to give his Testimony on all Occa-

Occaſions where it was wanted. This was the EXAMINER; A Perſon who had abuſed almoſt every Man in *England*, that deſerved well of his Country. He called Goodman *Fact* a Lyar, a Seditious Perſon, a Traytor, and a Rebel; and indeed ſo much incens'd the Honeſt Man, that he would certainly have knock'd him down if he could have come at him. It was allowed by every Body, that ſo foul-mouth'd a Witneſs never appeared in any Cauſe. Seeing ſeveral Perſons of great Eminence, who had maintained the Cauſe of Goodman *Fact*, he called them Ideots, Blockheads, Villains, Knaves, Infidels, Atheiſts, Apoſtates, Fiends, and Devils: Never did Man ſhow ſo much Eloquence in Ribaldry. The Court was at length ſo juſtly provok'd with this Fellow's Behaviour, who ſpared no Age, nor Sex, nor Profeſſion, which had ſhown any Friendſhip or

Inclination for the Plaintiff, that ſeveral began to Whiſper to one another, it was high time to bring him to Puniſhment. But the Witneſs over-hearing the Word *Pillory* repeated twice or thrice, ſlunk away privately, and hid himſelf among the People.

After a full Hearing on both Sides, Count *Tariff* was Caſt, and Goodman *Fact* got his Cauſe; but the Court ſitting late, did not think it fit at that time to give him Coſts, or indeed, to enter into that Matter. The Honeſt Man immediately retired, after having aſſured his Friends, That at any time when the Count ſhou'd appear on the like Occaſion, he would undertake their Defence, and come to their Aſſiſtance, if they would be at the Pains to find him out.

It is incredible, how general a Joy Goodman *Fact*'s Succeſs created in the City of *London* ; there was nothing to be ſeen or heard the next Day, but ſhaking of Hands, Congratulations, Reflections on the Danger they had eſcap'd ; and Gratitude to thoſe who had delivered them from it.

The Night concluded with Balls, Bonfires, Ringing of Bells, and the like Publick Demonſtrations of Joy.

FINIS.

It is incredible, how general a Joy Goodman Fair's Success created in the City of London; there was nothing to be seen or heard the next Day, but Shaking of Hands, Congratulations, Reflections on the Danger they had escap'd; and Gratitude to those who had delivered them from it.

The Night concluded with Balls, Bonfires, Illuminations, and the like Publick Demonstrations of Joy.

FINIS